

"SKINNER," the Representative from Graham county, who introduced the bill to skin newspapers of the little profit that may come to them through county printing, is believed to be entering for some one else who has a grievance. The bill referred to is the only one introduced by Mr. Skinner and if this bill was brought to the fore for the sole purpose of giving its sponsor a notoriety his ability did not command, his vanity will be gratified. We have had reformers of Mr. Skinner's kind and caliber before and the universal verdict has been that they were safe men to leave at home. He will prove no exception to the rule.

SENATOR VORHEES, who has been classed as extremely anti-Cleveland in his financial ideas, is accused of having been "persuaded" to promise his vote and assistance in securing a repeal of the Sherman silver law at the next session of Congress, in exchange for the Indian federal patronage. Time will tell whether there is any foundation for the accusation, but the fact that Senator Vorhees' brother-in-law has been given a nice diplomatic berth, and that he secured the appointment of Burke to U. S. Attorney and Hawkins to be U. S. Marshal for Indiana in the face of the opposition of every prominent original Cleveland democrat of that State, adds probability thereto. Such a howl was raised over these nominations, that it was rumored they would be withdrawn, but Mr. Vorhees stopped it by rushing their confirmation through the Senate.

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ASTROLOGY AS A FAD.

It Seems to Be Gaining Ground All Over the World.

People Who Consult the Planets for Aid in Solving perplexing Problems—The Growth of Spiritism.

Astrology seems to be gaining in popularity and many are turning to it for pointers concerning the future. The science of the stars. Meteorologists are consulting the planets in relation to changes in the weather, and scientists are seriously discussing the probability, or even possibility, of the larger planets exerting an influence on the earth sufficient to affect conditions of life or health. Astronomers do not believe in astrology, but are willing to give the unique science credit for assisting to develop the science of astronomy, says the Pittsburgh Gazette. Long before there was an interest taken in astrology there were many careful observers of the heavenly bodies. The names chosen by these men for stars and constellations remain unchanged. Astrology may be the fad ere long. If not the astrology of the ancients, then a modern adaptation of it. Not a few of the great men of Europe consulted stars, and seek answers to grave questions in the stars. It has been stated recently on what is said to be good authority that a representative of the Prussian government asked of a French astrologer the proper time to pick a quarrel with France. After carefully comparing horoscopes of high officials he answered: Any hour in the afternoon, as near as possible midway between the 9th and 14th of July, 1870.

On the 11th of July William smothered Marshal, the French embassy, and on the 13th friendly relations ceased. Astrologers, like fortune-tellers, are largely patronized by those who are in love or who want to be, and by those who are anxious to get into matrimony or get out of it. In addition to these there are not a few business men, speculators, politicians and craftsmen who consult them.

The seer of Charing Cross road, London, was often visited and consulted, says Edgar Lee in the Arena, by the late prince consort, Lord Lytton, the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Beaufort, and many other notables. The seer of Kings Cross also became quite famous through his predictions relating to the celebration of the queen's jubilee, in which he foretold the failure of the anarchists' plots, and the injuries that befell the marquis of Lorne.

There are two kinds of astrologists—those who are intuitive and those who rely solely on mathematical calculations. The latter meet with the greater favor among educated and thoughtful people, while the superstitious and unreasoning have a preference for the former. The seer who knows intuitively because he knows it.

Rathiel, of Baltimore, who has been consulted by so many in this community, belongs to the mathematical class. He will not give games, but says he is a constant consulting astrologer. He ranks high in business, political and social life. While he does not say that astrology is a science, he allows it hits entirely too often to be a mere guess or a coincidence. What are we coming to? Never in the history of the world have people been confronted with so many puzzling questions. We boast of our enlightenment, of our ability to solve many problems, but the solution of the only leads to another more difficult. Hypnotism, spiritism, theosophy and many other things pertaining to psychology and biology are occupying the attention of brainy men and women. We may scoff at these things as we please, the fact remains that they are steadily forcing themselves on our attention.

You can hardly realize the growth of spiritism within the last few years, and if it were popular to be an avowed spiritist you would find them in every congregation, not excepting the Roman Catholic and Presbyterian.

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NEW WARSHIP.

Successful Preliminary Trial Trip.

SHE RAN LIKE A YACHT.

The Armored Cruiser New York, Makes a Speed of 20 Knots.

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 26.—With the proud distinction of having broken the records of all preliminary trials, and the satisfaction of being the fastest armored vessel in the world, the cruiser New York returned to the Cramp shipyard this morning.

Despite the heavy rain and biting wind, 5,000 enthusiastic Philadelphians cheered the warship as she backed out into the stream and stood down the river on her trial trip. Capt. Sargent acknowledged the salutes with the ship's powerful siren whistle, and the night 83,000,000 vessel was headed down the Delaware. Then arose another wild shout as the four powerful engines began to vibrate and the water was churned from astern.